PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES: THE BILL OF RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES BY GOVERNING CITIZENS

Preamble We, the People of the United States, in order to restore democratic integrity, reinforce constitutional governance, and ensure government accountability, propose the following amendment to the United States Constitution. This amendment shall establish term limits for legislative offices, create oversight mechanisms for public officials, mandate government transparency, and empower citizens to protect the Republic from fiscal and constitutional crises.

"This nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom." - Abraham Lincoln, Gettysburg Address

Section 1: Term Limits for Congress and Senate

1. No person shall serve more than: a. Twelve (12) years in the United States Congress, whether consecutively or non-consecutively. b. Twelve (12) years in the United States Senate, whether consecutively or non-consecutively.
2. Any individual who has served the maximum number of years shall be ineligible for re-election or appointment to the same office.

Section 2: Citizens' Oversight Commission, Transparency Requirements, and the National Civic Engagement Portal

1. A Citizens' Oversight Commission (COC) shall be established, composed of independent, non-partisan members appointed by state legislatures and selected from a pool of legal scholars, civic leaders, and non-governmental auditors.
2. The COC shall have the power to: a. Audit and review the actions, expenditures, and legislative initiatives of all members of Congress and the Senate. b. Investigate allegations of corruption, misuse of public funds, or violations of constitutional duties. c. Issue reports and recommendations for disciplinary actions, impeachment, or legal prosecution.
3. Each member of Congress and the Senate shall be required to submit a **weekly log** detailing: a. Legislative actions, including votes, sponsorship of bills, and committee participation. b. Meetings with lobbyists, donors, foreign officials, and corporate representatives. c. A breakdown of government expenditures within their jurisdiction.
4. These logs shall be publicly accessible via a centralized government transparency database.
5. The **National Civic Engagement Portal (NCEP)** shall be established as a blockchain-based system providing each U.S. citizen with a Social Security Number (SSN) access to a **soulbound token** tied to their civic identity. This token shall allow citizens to vote directly on major policy issues, participate in referendums, and submit petitions securely.

6. Legislative proposals, amendments, and committee discussions must be published in real time through the **NCEP**, ensuring transparency and direct citizen participation in governance.
7. Elected officials must hold **quarterly town hall meetings** in their respective districts, where they must directly answer constituent questions and concerns.

Section 3: Automatic Activation of the Citizens' Constitutional Court in Case of Excessive Government Debt

1. If the national debt exceeds **seventy-five percent (75%) of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**, except in times of declared war by Congress, the **Citizens' Constitutional Court (CCC)** shall be automatically convened.
2. Membership in the CCC shall be composed of citizens who: a. Are at least twenty-eight (28) years of age. b. Have no affiliation with hate groups, as defined by established civil rights organizations. c. Have opted into eligibility for CCC service when registering to vote, as automatic voter registration shall not include automatic court eligibility.
3. The CCC shall: a. Investigate government spending and issue public reports. b. Freeze non-essential discretionary spending until an independent financial audit is completed. c. Recommend legislative measures to Congress, including mandatory deficit reduction plans. d. Have the authority to challenge executive orders and legislative appropriations deemed unconstitutional or fiscally irresponsible.
4. The CCC's decisions shall be reviewed by the Supreme Court for constitutional compatibility before implementation to prevent conflicts with judicial oversight.
5. Members of the CCC shall receive appropriate compensation and housing provisions while serving, ensuring financial stability and impartiality.

Section 4: Citizen Oversight and Direct Referendum Measures

1. The People shall have the right to petition for **direct referendums on major federal policies** when at least ten percent (10%) of the registered electorate signs a national petition.
2. If a **petition garners signatures from at least 5% of registered voters**, Congress must formally review and vote on the issue raised.
3. A **constitutional review board** shall assess referendum petitions before approval to prevent unconstitutional or frivolous proposals.
4. Emergency national security decisions shall not be subject to referendum delays to ensure governmental continuity in crises.

Section 5: Fiscal & Economic Responsibility Provisions

1. Except in cases of declared war or national emergency, Congress shall be **constitutionally required** to maintain a balanced budget.
2. A **biannual national fiscal report** shall be issued, explaining any increase in national debt, its necessity, and repayment strategies.

3. Any government debt that surpasses **75% of GDP** will trigger **automatic congressional hearings** and public disclosure on economic contingency measures.

Section 6: Strengthening Federal Election Integrity and Media Accountability

1. No candidate running for public office may accept funding from **corporate PACs, foreign entities, or anonymous donors**. Any political donation for office knowingly accepted from any entity listed in this section shall result in the individual being permanently barred from ever holding office at the federal level in the United States.
2. All political donations must be **publicly disclosed in real-time**.
3. Federal elections shall be conducted using a **ranked-choice voting** system.
4. All eligible citizens will be **automatically registered to vote** upon reaching voting age.
5. An **independent Election Oversight Board (EOB)** shall be established to enforce election integrity.
6. The **Fairness Doctrine** shall be restored as a constitutional mandate, requiring media outlets to provide balanced and fact-based coverage of political issues.
7. A **National Media Accountability Board (NMAB)** shall be established to investigate and penalize media organizations that knowingly spread provable falsehoods or engage in deceptive reporting with intent to mislead the public.
8. Media organizations shall have the right to an independent appeal before penalties are enforced to ensure First Amendment protections are not violated.

Conclusion This amendment reaffirms the sovereignty of the American People over their government. By establishing term limits, enhancing transparency, ensuring financial responsibility, and holding media accountable, it protects the Republic from corruption, inefficiency, and unchecked power.